



CALIFORNIA OCEAN PROTECTION COUNCIL

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Sheila Kuehl, State Senator, Ex officio Member
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OCEAN PROTECTION COUNCIL SELECTS EXECUTIVE POLICY OFFICER

Former Deputy Cabinet Secretary, Sacramento Attorney Drew Bohan Named to Top Spot

Sacramento – Secretary for Resources Mike Chrisman today announced the appointment of Sacramento attorney Drew Bohan as the first executive policy officer for California's Ocean Protection Council (OPC). In this role, Bohan will report to the Secretary for Resources and the council. He assumes his new position on Monday, May 22, 2006.

"Drew has demonstrated time and again that he has a solid knowledge of oceans issues and a commitment to preserving this tremendous resource," said Chrisman. "He will hit the ground running and help us move forward even more effectively to protect California's ocean and coast."

Bohan most recently served as deputy cabinet secretary to Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, where he was responsible for transportation, housing and environmental issues. Prior to his position in the Governor's Office, Bohan served as assistant secretary for policy with the California Environmental Protection Agency.

"I am grateful for the exciting challenge that lies ahead," Bohan said of his appointment. "There is a unique opportunity that the Ocean Protection Council is afforded as we develop a strategic plan to focus attention on ocean issues that are so important to all Californians. The council is well balanced and represented through the Resources Agency, CalEPA, the State Lands Commission and the Legislature. I hope to use that balance and representation to help promote the kind of high visibility issues that will pull ocean policy together."

Bohan's background has been in the environmental, legislative and legal arenas. He served as executive director of Santa Barbara Channelkeeper from 2000 to 2004. From 1994 to 2000 he was senior counsel to the Republic of Palau National Congress. Prior to his position in Palau he worked for the San Francisco Law firm of Heller, Ehrman, White and McAuliff. The firm was responsible for the "Dolphin-Safe Tuna" case settlement that mandated labeling to identify that tuna was caught using dolphin-safe practices. He is a member of the State Bar and holds a Juris Doctorate from Golden Gate University School of Law. He has a Bachelor's of Science degree from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

Governor Schwarzenegger signed the California Ocean Protection Act in 2004 creating the California Ocean Protection Council. The council consists of the Secretary for Resources, Secretary for Environmental Protection, Chair of the State Lands Commission, and two ex officio legislative members one from the Senate and one from the Assembly. The council oversees and coordinates statewide policy for the protection and management of California's ocean and coastal resources.

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